Maintenance of Supplies and Equipment

Airdrop,
Parachute
Recovery, and
Aircraft
Personnel
Escape
Systems

Headquarters
Department of the Army
Washington, DC
26 September 1997

Unclassified

SUMMARY of CHANGE

AR 750-32

Airdrop, Parachute Recovery, and Aircraft Personnel Escape Systems

This regulation --

- o Revises policies throughout.
- o Adds a responsibility regarding developing manpower requirements criteria (para 6).
- o Specifies responsibilities of the Commanding General, U.S. Army Special Operations Command (para 7), Commanding General, U.S. Army Soldier Systems Command (para 8), and Commanding General, U.S. Industrial Operations Command (para 9).
- o Revises references listed (app A).

Effective 26 October 1997

Maintenance of Supplies and Equipment

Airdrop, Parachute Recovery, and Aircraft Personnel Escape Systems

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Secretary of the Army

History. This publication is a revision. Because the publication has been extensively revised, the changed portions have not been highlighted.

Summary. This is a complete revision of AR 750–32, and changes are made throughout. The revision clarifies qualification requirements for personnel maintaining and

packing parachutes and states responsibilities under current Army organizations.

Applicability. This regulation applies to Active Army, Army National Guard (ARNG), and U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) units engaged in or in logistic support of airborne and air delivery operations. During mobilization, policies contained in this regulation may be modified by the proponent.

Proponent and exception authority. The proponent of this regulation is the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics (DCSLOG). The DCSLOG has the authority to approve exceptions to this regulation that are consistent with controlling law and regulation. The DCSLOG may delegate the approval authority, in writing, to a division chief within the proponent agency in the grade of colonel or the civilian equivalent.

Army management control process. This regulation contains management control provisions but does not identify key management controls that must be identified.

Supplementation. Supplementation of this

regulation and establishment of command and local forms are prohibited without prior approval from ATTN DALO-TST, DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF LOGISTICS, 500 ARMY PENTAGON, WASHINGTON DC 20310-0500.

Suggested Improvements. Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028 (Recommended changes to Publications and Blank Forms) directly to ATTN DALO-TST, DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF LOGISTICS, 500 ARMY PENTAGON, WASHINGTON DC 20310-0500.

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^{*}This regulation supersedes AR 750-32, dated 26 May 1989.

RESERVED

Section I General

1. Purpose

This regulation prescribes responsibilities for the support of airdrop, parachute recovery, and aircraft personnel parachute escape systems and raises the emphasis on training, safety, and logistics support of these increasingly complex systems and their peculiar support requirements.

2. References

Required and related publications are listed in appendix A.

3. Explanation of abbreviations and terms

Abbreviations and special terms in this regulation are explained in the Glossary.

Section II Responsibilities

4. Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics

The Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics (DCSLOG) is responsible for the promulgation of DA policy concerning subject systems.

5. Commanding General, U.S. Army Material Command The Commanding General, U.S. Army Material Command (CG, USAMC), is responsible for—

- a. Monitoring the aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems and support thereof.
- b. Providing depot support, supply and maintenance, and customer assistance for all aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.
- c. Ensuring sustained proficiency of all technicians performing depot maintenance and inspection of aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.

6. Commanding General, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command

The Commanding General, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (CG, TRADOC), is responsible for—

- a. Providing specialized training for personnel who will maintain aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.
- b. Ensuring that tables of organization and equipment (TOE) and tables of distribution and allowances (TDA), as applicable, authorize sufficient specialized area of concentration code/military occupational specialty (AOC/MOS) personnel to adequately support aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.
- c. Developing manpower requirements criteria (MARC) for AOC/MOS 92D, 921A, and 92R and updating at 3-year intervals as required by AR 570–2.
- d. Developing and publishing required rigging procedures for supplies and equipment to be airdropped.

7. Commanding General, U.S. Army Special Operations Command

The Commanding General, U.S. Army Special Operations Command (CG, USASOC), may authorize, and is responsible for—

- a. Providing and ensuring specific training/certification procedures necessary to ensure safe packing of the MT1–XX/MC–4 Ram Air Personnel Parachute Systems (MT–1XX/MC–4 RAPPS) main parachute by non-parachute rigger qualified Military Free-Fall (MFF) qualified personnel and personnel assigned as students to the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School (USAJFKSWCS) Military Free Fall Parachutist Course (MFFPC) and MFF Jumpmaster Course (MFFJMC) program of instruction (POI). This applies to the use and packing of the MT1–XX/MC–4 RAPPS main parachute by units of USASOC performing MFF operations.
 - b. Ensuring only soldiers who have satisfactorily completed or

- are assigned to the USAJFKSWCS MFFPC/MFFJMC using the MT1-XX/MC-4 RAPS will participate in this training/certification.
- c. Ensuring sustained proficiency of all non-rigger MFF qualified soldiers and USAJFKSWCS assigned MFFPC/MFFJMC students performing MT1-XX/MC-4 RAPPS main parachute packing.
- d. Ensuring the Army Airdrop Systems Technician (MOS 921A) or other authorized unit supervisors in accordance with section II, paragraph 11d, are responsible for adhering to the maintenance compliance standards of the MT1-XX/MC-4 RAPPS and administering the training/certification program.
- e. Ensuring an Army parachute rigger with the minimum grade of E-5 (MOS 92R2P) who fully meets the requirements of section II, paragraph 11c, and has satisfactorily completed the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School (USAQMCS) MT1-XX/MC-4 RAPPS Certification Course performs the duties of the parachute pack-in-process inspector.
- f. Ensuring that all USAJFKSWCS assigned or attached MFF instructors have satisfactorily completed the USAJFKSWCS MFF Instructor Training Course that includes instruction on the MT1–XX/MC–4 RAPPS main parachute canopy pack-in-process inspection procedures prior to performing duties of the parachute pack-in-process inspector. Qualified MFF instructors may perform duties as the pack-in-process inspector only while instructing during a USAJFKSWCS MFFPC or MFFJM POI and under the supervision of the Army parachute rigger meeting the requirements of paragraph 7e.
- g. Ensuring the Army parachute rigger inspector, meeting the requirements in paragraph 7e, or USAJFKSWCS assigned and qualified MFF instructors, meeting the requirements in paragraph 7 and 11e(2)(c), performs pack-in-process inspections at prescribed intervals to ensure the MT1-XX/MC-4 RAPPS main parachute canopy is packed in accordance with Technical Manual (TM) 10-1670-288-23&P and TM 10-1670-287-23&P.
- h. Ensuring the following reference material/manuals will be available during all parachute pack operations: AR 750–32, AR 59–4, FM 31–19, TM 10–1670–201–23, TM 10–1670–288–23&P, TM 10–1670–264–13&P, and TM 10–1670–287–23&P.
- i. Ensuring that packing area standards are in accordance with TM 10-1670-288-23&P and TM 10-287-23&P.
- *j.* Ensuring the Army parachute rigger packs and maintains RAPS MT1–XX/MC–4 reserve parachutes.
- k. Developing, publishing, and implementing procedures for nonrigger qualified MFF qualified personnel, USAJFKSWCS assigned MFF instructors, and MFFPC/MFFJM students operating under this paragraph.

8. Commanding General, U.S. Army Soldier Systems Command

The Commanding General, U.S. Army Soldier Systems Command (CG, SSCOM), is responsible for—

- a. Providing logistical functions, as prescribed in AR 700–127, AR 70–47, and AR 750–1, for all aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems, and related components, with the exception of cartridge actuated device/propellant actuated device (CAD/PAD) components.
- b. Developing and publishing the required supply, operational maintenance, and safety instructions pertinent to the operations and maintenance of aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, airdrop systems, and related components, except CAD/PAD (unless granted by exception).
- c. Maintaining coordination with the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command (TECOM), U.S. Army Safety Center (USASC), and the Departments of the Navy and Air Force on studies, research, development, test, and evaluation projects pertinent to aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, airdrop systems, and related components.
- d. Engineering evaluations on items relating to airdrop systems and reviewing records of all airdrop equipment involved in airdrop malfunctions for the purpose of identifying equipment that may need possible modifications or improvement.

9. Commanding General, U.S. Army Industrial Operations Command

The Commanding General, U.S. Army Industrial Operations Command (CG, IOC), is responsible for—

- a. Ensuring an adequate supply of all munitions (CAD/PAD), components of aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.
- b. Preparing publications detailing the required supply, maintenance, disposal, and safety instructions pertinent to munitions components of aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.
- *c.* Providing and maintaining record and investigation of all malfunctions involving munitions (CAD/PAD) that will be reported per AR 59–4.

10. Commander, U.S. Army Safety Center

The Commander, U.S. Army Safety Center (USASC), is responsible for maintaining a record of intentional and unintentional escape experiences that involve Army aircraft equipped with personnel parachute escape systems. Accidents of U.S. Army aircraft will be investigated, reported, and recorded per AR 385–40 and DA PAM 385–40.

11. Other MACOM commanders

Commanding generals of major Army commands not previously listed are responsible for—

- a. Recommending for approval, the tables of organizations and equipment (TOE) and tables of distribution (TDA) that authorize sufficient specialized military occupational specialty (MOS) personnel to adequately support assigned aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.
- b. Ensuring that an adequate airdrop force structure to support current airdrop doctrine is identified through the Total Army Analysis (TAA) process.
- c. Ensuring that a qualified Army parachute rigger, an individual who has been formally trained and properly certified by the USA Quartermaster Center and School, Fort Lee, VA, is on parachute duty status and possesses a primary AOC/MOS 92D, 921A, or 92R series. Army parachute riggers will not be relieved of their duties or have their parachute duty status terminated unless required by paragraph 11h.

Note. Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve personnel meeting the above requirements are considered qualified to pack, inspect, and repair parachutes as civilian technicians.

- d. Ensuring that only qualified riggers are assigned as supervisors of airdrop support units engaged in airdrop rigging, parachute maintenance, or parachute packing.
- (1) Qualified riggers are Active Component, Army National Guard, or U.S. Army Reserve personnel who—
- (a) Possess a primary AOC/MOS 92D, 921A, 92R5P, or 92R4P series,
- (b) Are assigned to an authorized TOE/TDA parachute rigger position, and
 - (c) Are on parachute duty status.
- (2) Qualified personnel who possess MOS 92R3P may be authorized to supervise such units. Certain circumstances may dictate that such personnel be temporarily detailed to supervisory positions for limited periods of time. In such cases, waivers (for periods not to exceed 180 days) may be granted by the MACOM but only after—
- (a) Careful consideration of the urgency of the situation and alternatives
- (b) Evaluation of the maturity and technical competence of the individual.

Note. When granting waivers, safety must be the foremost consideration.

(3) The supervisor is intended to be the individual charged with the control or direction of the airdrop support unit. Absence of the supervisor from the work facility does not dictate that all activities cease; however activities will cease if the parachute packing and maintenance requirements cannot be met because of the supervisor's absence.

- e. Ensuring performance for Aircraft Personnel Parachute Airdrop Systems (Troop-type).
 - (1) Static line deployed parachute.
- (a) Packing, maintenance, and inspection (Technical/Rigger-type, Pack-in process, Routine, and In-storage) of parachutes and associated ancillary equipment are performed only by qualified rigger personnel as identified in paragraph 11c.
- (b) Pack-in-process inspection is performed by a 92R possessing the following qualifications:
 - 1. Grade of E-5 or above and
 - 2. Minimum 2 years of parachute packing experience.

Note. Qualifications may be waived to allow a 92R1P (E-4 promotable) when recommended by the warrant officer in charge of that section and approved by the first 0-6 in the chain of command.

- (c) Department of Defense civilian employees may be engaged in the repair and inspection of static line parachutes if they—
- 1. Have been trained by the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School, Fort Lee, VA, and
- 2. Perform such duties under the supervision of a qualified rigger as defined in paragraph 11c.
 - (2) Free-fall parachutes.
- (a) Packing, maintenance, and inspection (Technical/Rigger type, Pack-in-process, Routine, and In-storage) of parachutes and associated ancillary equipment is performed only by qualified rigger personnel as identified in paragraph 11c. For exceptions, see paragraph 7a.
- (b) Pack-in-process inspections are performed only by authorized riggers as identified in paragraph 11e(1)(b). For exceptions, see paragraph 7f.
- (c) Personnel packing and/or performing the duties of the packin-process inspector receive specific packing and inspection training/certification from the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School, Fort Lee, VA.
- (d) Personnel performing maintenance, inspection, and testing of the Automatic Ripcord Release (AR2 and FF-2) are school-trained riggers as identified in paragraph 11c and have received specific training/certification from the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School, Fort Lee, VA.
- (e) Department of Defense civilian personnel may be engaged in the inspection and repair of free-fall parachutes if they—
- 1. Possess and maintain a current parachute rigger certificate issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the specific parachute being processed.
- 2. Perform such duties under the supervision of a qualified Army rigger as defined in paragraph 11c.
- $\it f.$ Ensuring performance for Aircraft Cargo and Extraction Parachute Airdrop Systems.
- (1) Military personnel (other than MOS 92R) may perform the duties of packing cargo and extraction-type parachutes. However, they must perform these duties under the supervision of an Armyqualified rigger as defined in paragraph 11c.
- (2) Department of Defense civilian personnel may be engaged in the inspection, repair, and packing of cargo and extraction-type parachutes if they—
- (a) Have been trained at the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School, Fort Lee, VA, and
- (b) Perform such duties under the supervision of a Army-qualified rigger as defined in paragraph 11c.
- g. Ensuring that all parachutes to packed by AOC/MOS 92D, 921A, and 92R are certified/type classified U.S. Army standard parachutes. Exceptions are listed as follows:
- (1) Army riggers may pack nonstandard parachutes that have been type classified by other Services if they have received training/certification from the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School, Fort Lee, VA, on the specific parachute being packed.
- (2) Army riggers may pack nonstandard parachutes utilized for parachute demonstrations by military or sports teams if they possess a current FAA parachute rigger certificate for that type of personnel parachute.
 - h. Ensuring personnel serving in positions requiring AOC/MOS

- 92D, 921A, or 92R are relieved of all parachute rigger AOC/MOS related duties when—
- (1) They have been identified as potential drug or alcohol abusers.
- (2) Their parachute duty status is terminated, whether voluntarily, medically, or for cause.
- (a) Exceptions will be granted to personnel on temporary profiles and/or pregnancy. These individuals will retain their MOS and continue performing duties within the limitations.
- (b) However, these personnel will not pack personnel parachutes or perform the duties of pack-in-process inspector. Commanders should consider all others for reclassification as soon as possible.
 - i. Ensuring performance for drop testing.
- (1) Drop testing of all airdrop equipment is performed under the supervision of qualified Army riggers who meet the supervisory requirements in paragraph 11*d*.
- (a) Drop testing (including airdrop load rigging) will only be conducted by an activity responsible for the packing, maintenance, and inspection of airdrop equipment. Drop testing of airdrop equipment consists of physically dropping an item from an aircraft in flight. It is used as a means of proving serviceability of an item or checking rigger proficiency.
- (b) Drop tests of a troop type personnel parachute will be jumped by an Army parachute rigger, qualified on the type of parachute being tested. Emergency-type or reserve personnel parachutes will be drop tested through the use of a dummy only.
- (c) Records of drop testing will be processed in accordance with the applicable publication, that is, TM 10-1670-201-23.
- (2) Drop testing by other than certified test agencies (Test and Evaluation Command, Airborne and Special Operations Test Directorate, and Material Test Directorate, Yuma Proving Ground) will be specifically limited to only type classified, in-service air items and be under current published airdrop procedures authorized by TOE or TDA.
- *j.* Providing maintenance (other than depot level) and storage for assigned aircraft personnel escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.
- k. Ensuring that Army aviation, all Army National Guard, and U.S. Army Reserve units that are not authorized to perform unit or higher levels of maintenance on parachutes are limited to the care and preservation of parachutes only. Support will be provided by authorized maintenance and supply units on a repair and return to user basis.
- *l.* Ensuring sustained proficiency of all personnel performing pack, maintenance, and inspection on airdrop, parachute recovery, and aircraft personnel parachute escape systems.
- m. Ensuring aircrew member training and aircraft transition training provides for full familiarization with operation and safety procedures related to aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems. Aircrew member training will be provided to all pilots, observers, and aircrew personnel.
- n. Ensuring the proper handling and storage of explosive components of airdrop systems in accordance with applicable technical manuals, that is, TM 9-1300-206.
- o. Ensuring all applicable safety procedures are strictly adhered to as prescribed in AR 385–40, AR 59–4, and as otherwise appropriate.
- p. Ensuring strict compliance to standards for maintenance, inspection, and packing of airdrop, parachute recovery, and aircraft personnel parachute escape systems in accordance with applicable technical manuals.
- q. Ensuring all cross-service agreements and commercial contracts negotiated for the purpose of maintenance or modification of cargo and extraction-type parachutes incorporate Department of the Army applicable repair or modification procedures and requirements.

Appendix A References

Section I Required Publications

AR 59-4/AFR 55-40/OPNAVINST 4630.24B/MCO 13480.1B

Joint Airdrop Inspection Records, Malfunction Investigations and Activity Reporting. (Cited in paras 7h, 9c, and 11o.)

AR 70-47

Engineering for Transportability. (Cited in para 8a.)

AR 385-40

Accident Reporting and Records. (Cited in para 10 and 11o.)

AR 570-2

Manpower Requirements Criteria. (Cited in para 6c.)

AR 700-127

Integrated Logistic Support. (Cited in para 8a.)

AR 750-1

Army Material Maintenance Policy and Retail Maintenance Operations. (Cited in para 8a.)

DA PAM 385-40

Army Accident Investigation and Reporting (Cited in para 10.)

TM 9-1300-206

Ammunition and Explosives Standards. (Cited in para 11n.)

Section II

Related Publications

A related publication is a source of additional information. The user does not have to read it to understand this regulation.

TM 10-1670-201-23

Organizational and Direct Support Maintenance Manual for General Maintenance of Parachutes and Other Airdrop Equipment.

TM 10-1670-264-13&P

Organizational and Direct Support Maintenance Manual Including Repair Parts and Special Tools List for MC-3 Free-Fall Personnel Parachute System.

TM 10-1670-287-23&P

Organizational and Direct Support Maintenance Including Repair Parts and Special Tools List for MC-4 Ram Air Free-Fall Personnel Parachute System.

TM 10-1670-288-23&P

Unit and Intermediate Direct Support Maintenance Manual Including Repair Parts and Special Tool List for Interim Ram Air Parachute System, Models MT1–XX, MT1–XR, MT1–XCCT.

Section III

Prescribed Forms

This publication prescribes no forms.

Section IV

Referenced Forms

This publication references no forms.

Glossary

Section I Abbreviations

AMC

U.S. Army Material Command

AOC

area of concentration code

ARNG

Army National Guard

CAD

cartridge activated device

CG

commanding general

DCSLOG

Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics

DOD

Department of Defense

FAA

Federal Aviation Administration

HQDA

Headquarters, Department of the Army

IOC

U.S. Army Industrial Operations Command

MACOM

major Army command

MARC

manpower requirements criteria

MFF

Military Free Fall

MFFJMC

Military Free Fall Jumpmaster Course

MFFPC

Military Free Fall Parachute Course

MOS

military occupational specialty

PAD

propellant actuated device

POI

program of instruction

SSCOM

Soldier Systems Command

TAA

total Army analysis

TDA

tables of distribution and allowances

TECOM

U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command

TM

technical manual

TOE

tables of organization and equipment

TRADOC

U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command

USAJFKWCS

U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School

USAMC

U.S. Army Materiel Command

USAR

U.S. Army Reserve

USASC

U.S. Army Safety Center

USASOC

U.S. Army Special Operations Command

Section II Terms

Aircraft personnel escape system

A system designed to facilitate the emergency escape of personnel from an aircraft. Assisted escape systems incorporate cartridge/propellant actuated devices and automatically deployed parachutes. Unassisted escape systems are comprised of either back, chest, or seat-type manually deployed emergency parachutes.

Airdrop system

A system designed to facilitate the premeditated delivery of personnel, supplies, and equipment from aircraft in flight. These systems are usually comprised of such items as troop-type parachutes (static line deployed and free-fall type systems), cargo-type parachutes, airdrop containers, platforms, tiedowns, and related items.

Cartridge actuated device/propellant actuated device (CAD/PAD)

A cartridge/propellant actuated device is a compact, self-contained package that utilizes the energy generated by the rapid burning of a charge to actuate such equipment as assisted personnel escape systems, reefing line cutters, parachute ejectors, and similar type items.

Parachute recovery system

A system designed to recover an object (missile, drone) from flight and to land it safely. These systems may be comprised of parachutes, controls or activating devices for land and/or flotation devices.

Section III

Special Abbreviations and Terms

This section contains no entries.

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This index is organized alphabetically by topic and subtopic. Topics and subtopics are identified by paragraph number.

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Aircrew, 11*m* Instructor, 7*f*, 7*g* Parachute, personnel, 7, 11*l* Specialized maintenance, 6*a*, 11*l* Supplies and equipment, 6*d*

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